

THE RUTHERFORD Report

THE NEWSLETTER OF SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JANICE RUTHERFORD

Winter 2017



Seniors enjoy lunch at the James L. Brulte Senior Center in Rancho Cucamonga through a program offered by the County of San Bernardino.

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

Senior Meal Program About More Than Food

Over the next three years, the San Bernardino County Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) will provide more than 2 million meals to tens of thousands of seniors with the help of nonprofit partners such as the Crest Forest Senior Citizens Club and the Family Service Association.

A little more than half of those meals will be served at 37 sites (mostly senior centers) around the county while the

others will be delivered directly to seniors who have difficulty leaving their homes.

“Our goal is to help our seniors live independently at home for as long as possible,” said Rhonda Neill, a Staff Analyst II at DAAS. “A lot of our seniors don’t have regular access to nutritious meals.”

MEALS, PAGE 3

Blood Donor Hits 100-Gallon Milestone



James Gursslin joined an exclusive club in October.

The 71-year-old Fontana resident became one of only 11 other donors in LifeStream’s 65-year history to donate a total of 100 gallons of blood and blood components.

“I just do it to help people, regardless of who’s on the receiving end of the donation,” he said. “I think it’s a good choice to make.”

James isn’t sure what exactly led him to make his first blood donation in the late 1960s other than his desire to

help others, but later on, it became personal when his father developed bone cancer and regularly needed transfusions.

After his father passed away in 1980, James continued donating blood, and when he learned his blood was “baby friendly,” he had yet another reason to take the time to donate.

About 40 percent of the population has so-called “baby friendly” blood because they have not been exposed to the cytomegalovirus (CMV), which causes mild flu-like symptoms. The virus can persist in a person’s white cells and can be transmitted through blood transfusions.

BLOOD, PAGE 4

Small Team Continues Sam Maloof's Work

A dedicated three-person team continues storied craftsman Sam Maloof's tradition of producing custom, hand-made furniture in a small workshop next the world-famous woodworker's Alta Loma home.

"We miss him a lot, but we are carrying on," said Mike Johnson, whose chance encounter with Maloof at Montclair Plaza in 1980 led to their long friendship and partnership in Sam Maloof Woodworker Inc.

Elegant wooden furniture designed and built by Maloof, who passed away in 2009, can be found in the Smithsonian, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the White House Craft Collection.

But Ros Bock, who manages the business end of Sam Maloof Woodworker Inc., said the master craftsman always insisted his work was meant for more than observing.

"He'd say, 'No, that's why I made it, for you to sit in,'" she said.

Today, Johnson and his son, Stephen, use the same tools, saws, sanders and templates as Maloof to make new furniture that mirror's the signature style that brought so much praise to the Chino native.

"We certainly aren't producing your everyday piece of furniture," Bock said. "You are buying a piece of art that is very, very functional."

Unlike wooden furniture found at most stores, the pieces produced here have no visible screws holding parts together. Instead, segments are fused together with glue and meticulously crafted joinery that allows each part to fit perfectly into the other.

Screws are used to reinforce joinery, but they are hidden beneath wooden plugs—often made from ebony wood to offer contrast. This allows the furniture to have a fluid, organic look and feel after it has been sanded and oiled for hours and hours.

Because of the amount of time and effort that go into each piece, customers often have to wait months to get items such as a walnut rocking chair, though Johnson said he does put other projects aside to get orders for baby cradles out as quickly as possible.

"Sam always said, 'Babies don't wait.'"

Johnson worked along side two fellow craftsman—Larry White and David Wade—for years in the workshop, but Wade left to pursue his own art in 2013 and White, who still leads the Maloof Master Craftsman Tours for the Maloof Foundation, recently retired from the business.

Johnson's son, Stephen, now works side by side with his father in the workshop.

"It's worked out even better than I imagined," Johnson said. "He took to it really well."

While Johnson has taught his son how to fashion fine furniture from hardwoods, his son has taught him a thing or two about modern day marketing, including how an Instagram post can reach hundreds of thousands

of potential customers around the world while costing a lot less than a half-page ad in Architectural Digest.

"It's amazing how the Internet kind of opens up the world to you," he said. "I'm working on pieces for customers in Singapore, Vietnam and Paris."

The radiant, sleek wooden furniture produced by Sam Maloof Woodworker Inc. doesn't come cheap. Prices range from \$40 for a small, walnut paper weight to \$3,000 for a maple pedestal table to \$20,000 for a walnut rocking chair or more for larger items.

But considering the fact that one of Maloof's rocking chairs once sold for \$80,500 at auction, customers are more than willing to pay a premium for furniture made in the famous craftsman's distinct style.

Visit www.sammaloofwoodworker.com more information about this Second District business.



MEALS, PAGE 1

San Bernardino County began offering this service to seniors in 1978 thanks to federal funds provided through the Older Americans Act. Since federal funding fluctuates from year to year, the program has had its ups and downs—at times having to reduce meal service and at other times increasing. This year, for example, the program received about \$350,000 more to boost the number of meals served.

Meals must provide seniors with 1/3 of their daily nutritional needs. Registered dietitians regularly examine menus and meals to ensure they comply with the requirement.

The meal sites often feature informational presentations about various services seniors may benefit from such as legal aid or help navigating Medicare. Seniors also play games like bingo and bunko and get a chance to participate in exercise activities as well.

“Keeping our seniors active is also important to their health and well being,” Rhonda said.

Penny Shubnell, who has organized the senior meal program in Crestline for 10 years, said the socializing that occurs is also critical for seniors.

“I’m finding more and more seniors who live alone, and sometimes this is the only time they go out,” she said.

Meal locations are open to anyone 60 years old or older, but most patrons are in their 70s or older.

Rhonda said getting younger seniors to take advantage of the meal program has been a challenge “They don’t really think of themselves as seniors, and they don’t want to go to senior centers,” she said.

It’s important to get younger seniors in the door because funding is based on participation.

“If we can’t get the younger ones to come in, we are going to have a gap,” Penny said.

Penny said she includes events such as art and fashion shows to bring in the “younger” crowd.

“When they turn 60, they don’t want to go to a senior lunch because they think that’s for old people, until they get there and realize it’s fun,” she said.

A small confidential donation is requested; however, no eligible individuals are denied meals because of their inability to pay. On average, meal sites collect about \$3 per meal.

The County’s nonprofit partners also accept volunteer help. The meal site in the City of Montclair has a volunteer who is 100 years old.

“The more volunteers we have the more we can contain our costs,” Rhonda said.

Anyone interested in volunteering at a senior meal site can contact Rhonda at (909) 891-3930. Volunteers are required to undergo a criminal background check and a food handler permit may be required depending on the duties. The program covers these costs for volunteers.

Visit <http://hss.sbcounty.gov/daas/> for more information about the Senior Nutrition Program and other services provide by DAAS.

2nd District Trivia

Last Issue’s Answer: Papoose Lake was created during a project to protect the Lake Arrowhead dam from collapsing during a major earthquake.

Question: What freeway is considered an interstate highway until it enters San Bernardino County where it becomes a state route?

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BLOOD, PAGE 1

It rarely causes problems for blood transfusion recipients, but it can have severe or even fatal consequences for low birth weight babies and infants, which is why hospitals prefer to use CMV-negative blood in their pediatric units.

James donated whole blood until he reached the 12-gallon mark about 20 years ago. Then he discovered he could donate more often through a procedure called apheresis, which isolates one or more blood components such as plasma and platelets for collection.

A healthy person can donate whole blood every eight weeks while plasma can be donated once a month and platelets can be donated every two weeks.

James said time is probably what keeps most people from donating. On average, it takes about an hour to complete a whole blood donation, including the initial screening, paperwork and recovery time. Donating plasma and platelets takes longer.

James, who is retired from the Fontana Unified School District where he worked in the maintenance department, said the time factor doesn't bother him. He usually shows up early so he has time to chat with friendly staff at the LifeStream office in San Bernardino.

He doesn't plan to slow down his donations now that he's hit the 100-gallon milestone.

"I'll keep giving until they tell me I can't donate anymore," he said.

LifeStream is a private, non-profit that provides blood to more than 80 medical facilities in Southern California. It was established by the medical societies of San Bernardino and Riverside counties. The blood center needs about 500 donations a day to ensure local hospitals have safe, ample supplies of blood. Visit www.lstream.org to learn more.

Upcoming Events

December 9	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will host living nativity scenes at 6:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 6829 Etiwanda Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served.
January 9	The City of Upland will host its popular Biggest Loser Challenge. Individual participants or teams have until spring to lose as much weight as possible to become Upland's new Biggest Losers. Visit the Magnolia Recreation Center located at 651 W. 15th Street to learn more.
January 14	The Crestline Community Development Alliance will host its monthly cleanup event. Volunteers meet in the parking lot of Goodwin's Market at 9 a.m. This event is subject to cancelation during inclement weather.
January 14	The City of Fontana will host a celebration of the life of Martin Luther King Jr. from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Steelworker's Auditorium. Call (909) 823-2310 for more information.
January 14-15	The 42nd annual Cable Airport Air Show will start at 8 a.m. The airport is located at 1749 W. 13th Street. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids from 5-12. Younger children enter for free.
January 26	The Fontana State of the City Address will take place at the Jessie Turner Center at 7:30 a.m. and again at 11:30 a.m. RSVPs are required. Call (909) 822-4433 for ticket information.
January 27	The Upland Chamber of Commerce's 2017 Taste of the IE will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton located at 555 W. Foothill Blvd. in Claremont. Enjoy food, drinks, casino tables, dancing, live auction and more.
February 4	The Lake Arrowhead Rotary Foundation will host its annual Polarotary Bear Plunge fundraiser from 10 a.m. to noon at the Lake Arrowhead Resort and Spa. Help raise money for worthy causes by jumping into Lake Arrowhead's chilly water. Visit www.polarotarybearplunge.com for more information.
February 23	The Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce will host the annual State of the City from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at the Lewis Family Playhouse, 12505 Cultural Center Drive. Call (909) 477-2752 for ticket information.
March 8	The 2017 State of the County will take place from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Citizens Business Bank Arena. Visit www.sbcountyadvantage.com for more information.
April 4	Rebuilding Together Mountain Communities will host its annual Rebuilding Day to help low-income homeowners fix up their homes so they can live in warmth, safety and independence. Visit www.rebuildingtogethmountaincommunities.org for more information about this all volunteer effort.

Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Please contact Supervisor Rutherford's office at (909) 387-4833 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Events Calendar. You can view information about more local events on Supervisor Rutherford's home page at www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford.